

FY-2001 PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK for:
Steamboat Lake Water Lease

Project #: 67

Lead Agency: Water Acquisition Committee

Submitted by: George Smith
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Category:

- ☒ Ongoing project
- ☐ Ongoing-revised project
- ☐ Requested new start

Expected Funding Source:

- ☐ Annual funds
- ☐ Capital funds
- ☒ O&M funds

I. Title of Proposal: Steamboat Lake Water Lease (Year 5)

II. Relation to RIPRAP:

Green River Action Plan: Yampa and Little Snake Rivers
I.B.2.a.(1)(b) Lease up to 3,300 AF from Steamboat Lake to augment late summer flows

III. Study Background/Rationale and Hypotheses:

The lease of water from Steamboat Lake will help stabilize late summer flows in the Yampa River to maintain habitat for Colorado pikeminnow in the Yampa River. It is hypothesized that late summer flows in dry years may impede pikeminnow movement and decrease the extent of pool habitat.

IV. Study Goals/Objectives and End Products:

The goal of the effort is to provide a reliable source of late summer water for the Yampa River to maintain river habitat quality.

V. Study Area:

The Yampa River from Steamboat Springs to the confluence with the Green River.

VI. Study Method/Approach:

1. The Recovery Implementation Program will lease water from the Colorado Division of Parks (Parks), which owns Steamboat Lake. The lease will be for 2,000 acre-feet with a possibility of increasing to 3,300 acre-feet at some time in the future. A lease price of \$16 per acre-foot has been established for 2001.

2. Recovery Program Staff will work with Parks and the CWCB to renegotiate the lease for 25- 40 years.

VII. FY-2001 Budget:

Division of Parks Lease: \$32,000

FY-2002 Budget: The lease will need to be renegotiated for 2002 for an additional 5 years. The cost of the lease is expected to remain at \$32,000 with an inflation adjustment.

VIII. Reviewers: N/A Ongoing Project

IX. References: N/A